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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 ACDA-18 IO-13

NIC-01 OST-01 SCI-05 AEC-11 RSR-01 /140 W
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

R 061440Z FEB 70
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5886
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION NATO

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE *7/15/80*
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS ATTACKS DECISION ON SECOND PHASE OF SAFEGUARD

REF: MOSCOW 583; MOSCOW 625

1. CONTINUING PRIMARILY TO CITE FOREIGN SOURCES TO EXPRESS MOSCOW'S IRRITATION, THE SOVIET PRESS FEB. 5-6 CARRIES COMMENTARY ATTACKING THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION ON THE SECOND STAGE OF SAFEGUARD. FOR THE FIRST TIME OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE, A SOVIET PAPER (MOSKOV'SKAYA PRAVDA, FEB. 6), ATTRIBUTING THE VIEW TO "RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE" IN THE US, SAYS CONTINUATION OF SAFEGUARD DEVELOPMENT "MAY EXERT A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE" ON SALT. A THEME IMPLIED IN THE COMMENTARY IS THAT THE SECOND PHASE OF SAFEGUARD WILL BE FOLLOWED BY OTHER STAGES AND THAT THE US IS ENTERING A NEW ROUND IN THE ARMS RACE.

2. WRITING ABOUT THE SECOND STAGE OF SAFEGUARD, O. VASIL'YEV (IZVESTIYA, FEB. 5) ASSERTS THAT WHAT IS AT ISSUE IS NOT ONLY TREMENDOUS SUMS OF MONEY, BUT ALSO DAMAGE DONE TO THE HOPES OF AMERICANS AND OF "PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD" FOR TURNING DOWN THE ARMS RACE. HE QUOTES SEN. FULBRIGHT THAT THE DECISION IS "CATASTROPHIC."

3. VOL'NOV (MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA, FEB. 6) CITES WP COLUMNIST KRAFT TO EFFECT THAT SAFEGUARD IS A "PROVOCATION" BASED ON THE US TACTIC OF "NEGOTIATING FROM STRENGTH." VOL'NOV REITERATES SOVIET

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LINE THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WILL NOT SUCCEED.
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